

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: AF/W:BRIAN S. KIRKPATRICK

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TAGS:

SUBJECT: SOLAR AID PID (OPERATION ENERGIE NOUVELLE -
PROJECT 688-0217)

1. THE SUBJECT PID WAS REVIEWED ON MARCH 20 BY A PROJECT COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF AFR/SFWA, AFR/DR, ENGINEERING, MISSION DIRECTOR LEVIN AND OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS INCLUDING SOME WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PROJECT. AA/AFR HAS APPROVED THE PID AND THE RECOMMENDATION THAT A PP DESIGN TEAM GO TO MALI IN EARLY MAY. THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION DURING PROJECT DESIGN.

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2. SUGGEST PROJECT BE CALLED OPERATION ENERGIE NOUVELLE TO EMPHASIZE BROAD NATURE OF SOLAR ENERGY. IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT THE PROJECT AIMS AT INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS SETTING UP OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS. THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE OPERATING FACILITIES AND NOT JUST CONCENTRATE ON RESEARCH.

3. THE PROJECT MUST BE CONSIDERED IN THE SAHEL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CONTEXT. THE REGIONAL ASPECTS OF THE PID MIGHT BE DISCUSSED AT THE FORTHCOMING SDP WORKSHOP. AMONG ISSUES THAT SHOULD BE NOTED ARE AVOIDANCE OF UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION OF PROJECTS IN SAHEL COUNTRIES, POSSIBILITY OF REPLICATION OF SOME OF THESE PROJECTS IN OTHER SAHEL COUNTRIES, RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROJECT TO THE SAHEL ENERGY STUDY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE CLUB DU SAHEL AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE CLUB WILL PROMOTE REGIONAL/NATIONAL APPROACHES TO ENERGY MANUFACTURE AND MARKETING. THE QUESTION OF LINKAGES BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SAHEL AND A CONTINUING DIALOGUE BETWEEN NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED.

4. FUNDING-SDP FUNDS WILL BE USED. IF PROJECT IS APPROVED FOR FY 78, OYB FOR MALI WILL BE INCREASED ACCORDINGLY.

5. IN PREPARING THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BUDGET, THE PP TEAM SHOULD NOTE THE KINDS OF FIELDS INVOLVED, RATHER THAN LINE ITEMS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SOLID R&D UNITS BE CHOSEN, WITH COOPERATION OF THE GRM. THE PP TEAM SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER THE 1/2 HECTARE UNITS MENTIONED IN THE PID ARE TOO SMALL FOR TESTING PURPOSES.

6. THE NEED FOR MANY SEPARATE LOCATIONS FOR PUMPS WAS NOTED. IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE ABLE TO COMPARE THE NEW
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TECHNOLOGIES TO THOSE CURRENTLY IN USE. CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED OVER SELECTION OF SITES. THE PP TEAM SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER IT IS WISE TO CONDUCT TESTS OVER SO WIDE AN AREA. THE PRELIMINARY SITE SELECTION SHOULD BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF APPLICATION OF VARIOUS TECHNOLOGIES, RELATIONSHIP TO ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA, AND MALIAN PRIORITIES.

7. IT WAS STRESSED THAT CONSTRUCTION OF A SOLAR LABORATORY IS A MAJOR COMPONENT OF THE PROJECT. WHILE THE CONSTRUCTION ELEMENT SHOULD REMAIN, THE PP TEAM SHOULD JUSTIFY IT CAREFULLY, AS LARGE CONSTRUCTION ELEMENTS ARE A MAJOR CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN. IF CONSTRUCTION COSTS ARE TO BE INCLUDED, THEN PRELIMINARY PLANS AND COST ESTIMATES, REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY AN AID ENGINEER, WILL NEED TO BE PREPARED IN ORDER TO MEET 611 CRITERIA OF THE FAA.

8. THE USE OF NON U.S. EQUIPMENT FOR THIS PROJECT WAS DISCUSSED. IF IT IS FELT NECESSARY TO USE FRENCH PVC-POWERED PUMPS, THIS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE PP. IF FRENCH PUMPS ARE RECOMMENDED, A JUSTIFICATION WAIVER WILL BE NECESSARY. THE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIST OF THE PP TEAM WILL

BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING IF U.S.-MANUFACTURED PVC-POWERED PUMPS ARE AVAILABLE. THE PP SHOULD STRESS THAT AS MANY SIMPLE, LOCALLY MANUFACTURED ITEMS AS POSSIBLE SHOULD BE USED. THE TEAM SHOULD CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTRACTING OUT THE BUILDING OF PROTOTYPES TO SMALL FIRMS IN MALI OR NEIGHBORING STATES AND ALSO THE EXCLUSIVE

USE OF MALIAN-MANUFACTURED ITEMS AT ONE OF THE SITES.

9. THE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS OF THIS PROJECT SHOULD RECEIVE GREATER EMPHASIS. THE PP SHOULD INCLUDE DETAILS ON INTERNATIONAL TRAINING AND THE FORMAL LINKS, IF ANY, WITH THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING IN MALI.

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10. OTHER DONOR PARTICIPATION, PARTICULARLY THAT OF THE FRENCH, WAS DISCUSSED. THERE MAY BE A POSSIBILITY OF THE FAC PICKING UP SOME OF THE COSTS OF THE PROJECT, PARTICULARLY IF FRENCH-MANUFACTURED EQUIPMENT IS USED. THE PP SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY OTHER DONORS TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY IN MALI. HOWEVER, THE DIFFICULTIES OF JOINT FINANCING SHOULD BE NOTED.

11. PEACE CORPS - THERE IS A PEACE CORPS EFFORT IN THIS AREA. PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF PP TEAM IN MALI, LEVIN SHOULD DISCUSS WITH PC/MALI A POSSIBLE P.C. ROLE, FOR EXAMPLE, IN PARTICIPATING IN THE VILLAGE-LEVEL SURVEYS CONTEMPLATED IN THE PID. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE P.C. DIRECTOR BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRE-DESIGN WORKSHOP (SEE BELOW).

12. ENVIRONMENT - THE IEE WAS CONSIDERED GENERALLY SATISFACTORY, BUT SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION (A) BUILDING CONSTRUCTION (NOT EXPECTED TO PRESENT A PROBLEM), (B) WATER IMPOUNDMENT. IT WAS FELT THAT IMPOUNDMENT OF WATER WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THIS PROJECT AND MUST BE DEALT WITH ASAP, (C) WATER TABLES - THE EFFECT OF PUMPING, ESPECIALLY FOR IRRIGATION ON WATER TABLES, MUST BE DISCUSSED. REVISED IEE SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ASAP AND AT LATEST BEFORE PP TEAM FINISHES ITS WORK.

13. PROJECT COMMITTEE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE TO THE PROJECT PURPOSE OF THE TRANSFER OF SMALL RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS TO THE RURAL VILLAGE SETTING. THIS INVOLVES QUESTIONS OF OWNERSHIP, LOCAL LEVEL MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE CAPABILITY, EQUITY AND SOCIAL ACCEPTABILITY. PP TEAM SHOULD DIRECT PARTICULARLY INTENSIVE EXAMINATION AND

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ANALYSIS TO THIS CRITICAL PROJECT ASPECT.

14. IT WAS NOTED THAT MORE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON ENERGY CONSERVATION (I.E., THE MANUFACTURE OF MORE EFFICIENT STOVES). THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT ON VILLAGES, INCLUDING WOMEN SHOULD ALSO BE STUDIED. THIS WILL BE A PRINCIPAL TASK OF THE ANTHROPOLOGIST ON THE PP TEAM. HE SHOULD MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF LOCAL RESOURCES IN THIS STUDY. VANCE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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